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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Food and Drug Administration

[Docket No. 02F-0181]

Safe Foods Corp.; Filing of Food Additive Petition

AGENCY: Food and Drug Administration, HHS.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is announcing that Safe Foods Corp. has filed a petition proposing that the food additive regulations be amended to provide for the safe use of cetylpyridinium chloride as an antimicrobial agent in poultry processing.

DATES: Submit written comments on the petitioner's environmental assessment by [insert date 30 days after date of publication in the FEDERAL REGISTER].

ADDRESSES: Submit written comments to the Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305), Food and Drug Administration, 5630 Fishers Lane, rm. 1061, Rockville, MD 20852. Submit electronic comments to http://www.fda.gov/dockets/ecomments.

Andrew D. Laumbach,

Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition (HFS-265),

Food and Drug Administration,

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

5100 Paint Branch Pkwy.,

College Park, MD 20740,

202-418-3071.

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SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (sec. 409(b)(5) (21 U.S.C. 348(b)(5))), notice is given that a food additive petition (FAP 2A4736) has been filed by Safe Foods Corp., c/o Keller and Heckman LLP, 1001 G St. NW., Washington, DC 20001. The petition proposes to amend the food additive regulations in part 173 Secondary Direct Food Additives Permitted in Food for Human Consumption (21 CFR part 173) to provide for the safe use of cetylpyridinium chloride as an antimicrobial agent in poultry processing.

The potential environmental impact of this action is being reviewed. To encourage public participation consistent with regulations issued under the National Environmental Policy Act (40 CFR 1501.4(b)), the agency is placing the environmental assessment submitted with the petition that is the subject of this notice on public display at the Dockets Management Branch (see ADDRESSES) for public review and comment. Interested persons may submit to the Dockets Management Branch written comments by sinsert date 30 days after date of publication in the FEDERAL REGISTER]. Two copies of any comments are to be submitted, except that individuals may submit one copy. Comments are to be identified with the docket number found in brackets in the heading of this document. Received comments may be seen in the Dockets Management Branch between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. FDA will also place on public display any amendments to, or comments on, the petitioner's environmental assessment without further announcement in the FEDERAL REGISTER. If, based on its review, the agency finds that an environmental impact statement is not required and this petition results in a regulation, the notice of availability of the agency's finding of no significant impact and the evidence supporting

that finding will be published with the regulation in the **FEDERAL REGISTER** in accordance with 21 CFR 25.51(b).

Dated: APR 11 2002

April 11, 2002.

Laura M. Tarantino, Acting Director,

Office of Food Additive Safety,

Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition.

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